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Date of Deposit: May 26, 2004

Attorney Docket No.: 25452-014

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Therrien, et al.  
SERIAL NUMBER : 10/658,978 EXAMINER : Not Yet Assigned  
FILING DATE : September 10, 2003 ART UNIT : 2186  
FOR : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR STORAGE SYSTEM TO  
PROVIDE DISTRIBUTED DATA STORAGE AND PROTECTION

## Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

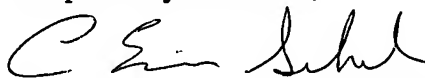
Transmitted herewith for filing in the present application are the following documents:

1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages), in duplicate;
2. Modified Form 1449/PTO (1 page), in duplicate;
3. Copies of Cited References: A18-25, C2-4; and
4. Return Postcard.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 542-6000, Boston, Massachusetts.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311 Ref. No. 25452-014. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Eric Schulman, Esq., Reg. No. 43,350  
Attorney(s) for Applicants  
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,  
GLOVSKY and POPEO, P.C.

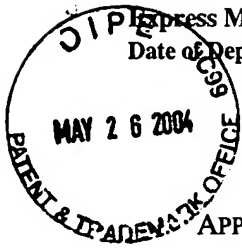
Address all written correspondence to

Customer no.: 30623

Tel: (617) 542-6000

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Date: May 26, 2004



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### SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby makes of record the documents listed on the attached modified Form PTO-1449.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action based on the merits in the above-identified case. Accordingly, no fee or certification is believed required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims, and sign the enclosed form PTO-1449 to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application.

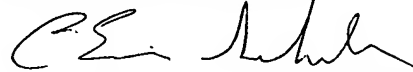
By submitting this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that: (1) a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist; (2) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and (3) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

APPLICANTS: Therrien, et al.  
U.S.S.N.: 10/658,978

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his/her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information. An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Please charge any fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 25452-014.

Respectfully submitted,



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C. Eric Schulman, Esq., Reg. No. 43,350  
Attorney(s) for Applicants  
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,  
GLOVSKY and POPEO, P.C.

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Page 1 of 1  
Attorney Docket No.: 25452-014

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<b>Modified Form 1449/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number		10/658,978	
				Filing Date		September 10, 2003	
				First Named Inventor		Therrien	
				Group Art Unit		2186	
				Examiner Name		Not Yet Assigned	
				Attorney Docket Number		25452-014	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
<b>Exam Initials</b>	<b>Cite No.</b>	<b>U.S. Patent Document No.</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Name of Patentee(s) or Applicant(s)</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Sub Class</b>	<b>Filing Date If Appropriate</b>
	A18	5,564,037	10/08/96	Lam	395	488	
	A19	5,764,972	06/09/98	Crouse, et al.	395	601	
	A20	5,778,395	07/07/98	Whiting, et al.	707	204	
	A21	6,023,709	02/08/00	Anglin, et al.	707	204	
	A22	6,330,572 B1	12/11/01	Sitka	707	205	
	A23	6,453,339 B1	09/17/02	Schultz, et al.	709	206	
	A24	6,546,404 B1	04/08/03	Davis, et al.	707	204	
<b>U.S. PUBLISHED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS</b>							
<b>Exam Initials</b>	<b>Cite No.</b>	<b>U.S. Published Application No.</b>	<b>Published Date</b>	<b>Name of Patentee(s) or Applicant(s)</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Sub Class</b>	<b>Filing Date If Appropriate</b>
	A25	2002/0107877 A1	08/08/02	Whiting, et al.	707	204	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
<b>Exam Initials</b>	<b>Cite No.</b>	<b>Foreign Patent Document Office Number</b>	<b>Name of Patentee(s) or Applicant(s)</b>		<b>Date of Publication</b>	<b>Translation Yes No</b>	
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>							
<b>Exam Initials</b>	<b>Cite No.</b>	<b>Name of Author, Title (when appropriate), Publication, Volume, Page(s), Date, Etc.</b>					
	C2	Garcia-Molina, et al., 35 <sup>th</sup> IEEE Computer Society International Conference, pgs. 573-577 (1990).					
	C3	Lyon, J., 35 <sup>th</sup> IEEE Computer Society International Conference, pgs. 562-567 (1990).					
	C4	Mohan, et al., Proceedings of the 9 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Data Engineering, pgs. 511-518 (1993).					

A copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.